Indonesia Under Suharto

Oppression, Brutality & Slaughter

Indonesia wants you to do business in their country but they don't want you to know with whom you are dealing. The Indonesian government of General Suharto is one of the world's most brutal and corrupt military dictatorships.

Suharto's military took power in a coup in 1965, and in the process massacred an estimated 800,000 Indonesians. Since then, tens of thousands more people have been killed, with countless others thrown in jail for such "crimes" as "insulting the government." Basic freedoms, such a freedom of assembly, speech or press, are practically nonexistent. Indonesia is one of the least free and democratic nations in the world, and according to US State Department reports, it is becoming less and less so.

Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 and has conducted a relentless and genocidal campaign against the Timorese people which has claimed more than 200,000 lives, one-third of the population. In violation of UN Security Council resolutions, Indonesia continues to occupy and conduct its war against East Timor. Many experts feel that the issue of East Timor is starting to destabilize Indonesia just as Afghanistan did for the Soviet Union.

Amnesty International has said of the Suharto regime that "few governments have such a casual attitude toward mass murder." Indonesia's military has also been condemned by the US government, the UN and many other human rights organizations for its horrific human rights record both in Indonesia and in East Timor.

In addition to its brutality, the corruption of the Suharto regime is also widely known. Suharto's children and cronies are among the richest people in the country, controlling most of the important industries. Virtually any foreign company conducting significant business in Indonesia is forced to pay substantial bribes in order to continue doing business.

To do business with Indonesia is to do business with a corrupt and ruthless military dictatorship, one which has committed some of the worst atrocities since World War Two one which oppresses its own people and which has been condemned by the world for its illegal occupation and genocide in East Timor.

For more information contact: East Timor Religious Outreach (415) 474-6219